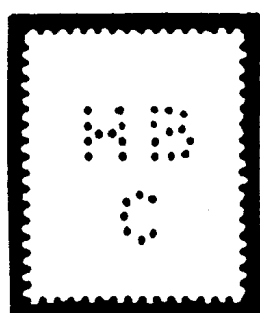


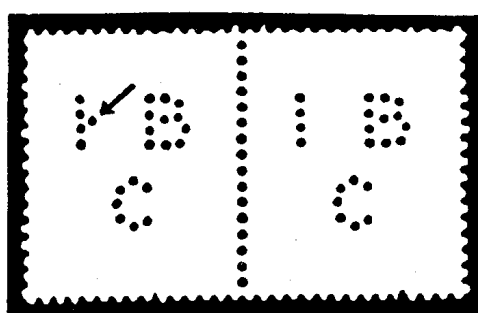
## DELIBERATE PIN REMOVAL – THE ONES THAT GOT AWAY! Roy Gault

The removal of pins from a perforating head is a cheap way of producing a 'new' perfin from an old die. On occasions only *some* of the pins were removed to form the new pattern. This was the case when the Cadbury Brothers perfin C.B/B (C0530.01) was modified to become an unsightly C.S/B (C6835.01) on the formation of Cadbury Schweppes. On other occasions *all* the pins forming a particular letter have been removed. Such was the approach adopted when the various Area Health Authorities dropped the word Area from their title, Slopers simply removed the letter 'A' from the perfin dies involved.

Fortunately for us this process of pin removal has not always been carried out with 100% efficiency, in that the odd pin has sometimes been left in and now sticks out like a 'sore thumb'. These occurrences must be quite rare for since becoming catalogue editor in 1989, only three such examples have been brought to my attention. My thanks go to all concerned.

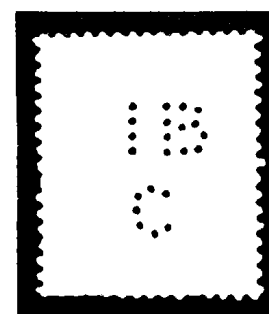


**H0470.01A**



**I0091.01**

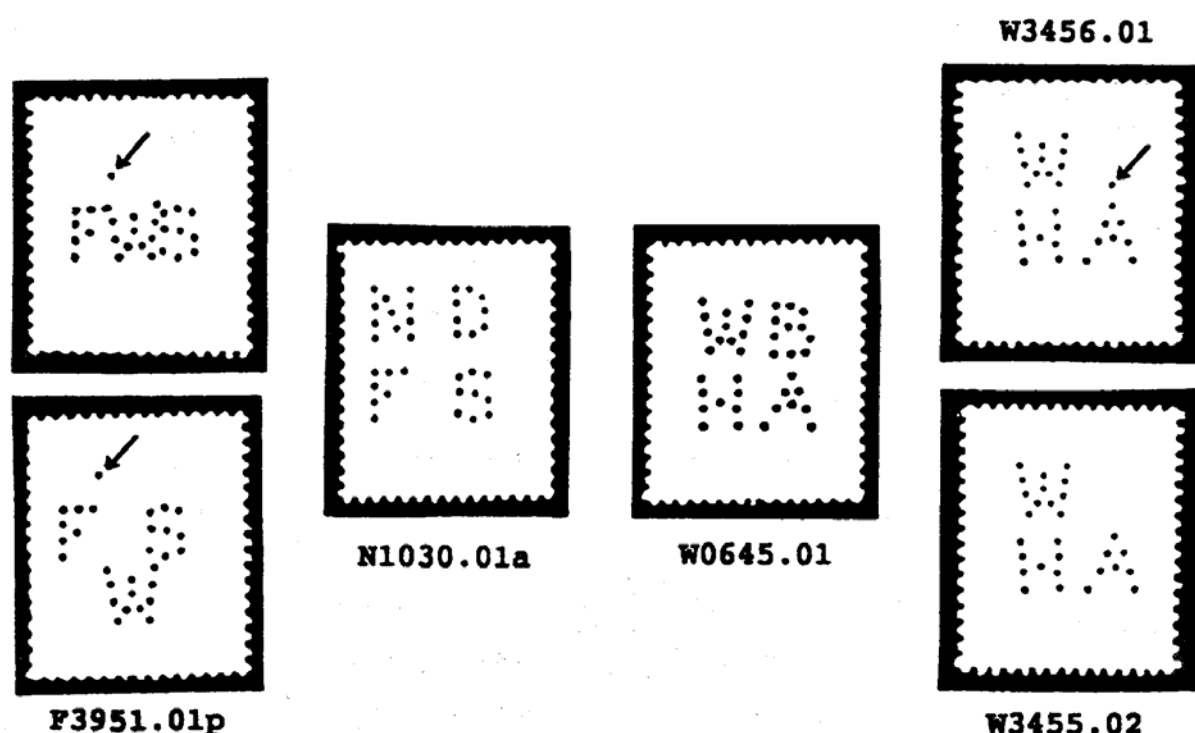
**I0090.01**



**I0090.01a**

The first was from Arthur Smith in the form of a delightful pair on GVI dark colour issue. The perfin itself is IB/C (I0090.01), but the extra pin in the left hand perfin gives the game away - it was once HB/C. H0470.01A with the *right* hand portion of the 'H' removed matches Arthur's pair in every detail. Interestingly, the illustration for IB/C (I0090.01a) is also a good match against this HB/C die but with the *left* hand portion of the 'H' removed. As confirmation, the Sloper 'manuscript' ledger has the instructions 'Alter HB/C (a 12 headed die) alongside the IB/C entry for Islington Corporation.

Another example from the wartime 'emergency' period is the known provisional FS/W (F3950.01p). Eric Whitehead and Keith Sears have both reported examples on GVI light colour issues with an extra hole above the F. An exhaustive search through the Illustrated catalogue produced an excellent fit with the perfin ND/FS (renumbered N1030.01a). This time, however, the entry in the Sloper 'manuscript' ledger is not quite so helpful. The instructions '1-1-12' against FS/W (Fore Street Warehouse Co.) have been crossed out, presumably because a better solution had been adopted. After all, one strike from the modified ND/FS die and another for the 'W' would be much quicker than three separate strikes of single letters.



Lastly, a modern example has been reported by John Bonney and Harry Skinner on QEII decimal Machins. Slopers have confirmed that the die WB/HA (W0645.01) used to perfin stamps for the West Birmingham Health Authority was modified by the removal of the 'B' to form W/HA (W3455.02). As in the previous two cases, a pin has been left behind producing another nice perfin variety.

I would be pleased to hear from anyone who can add more details regarding issues, dates etc. or even better, further examples.